

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Bernice Marquez
Bernice Marquez, Sec'y

09319142-072999

In the application of: Ernst Michael Winter, Lothar Schäfer, and Thorsten Mathee

Serial Number: unknown (Based on PCT/EP98/06074)

International Filing Date: September 23, 1998

For: GEMSTONE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1: after the title, insert the following heading:

A1 -- Background of the Invention --

Page 3: between lines 4 and 5, please insert the following heading:

A2 -- Summary of the Invention --

Page 7: before line 1, please insert the following heading:

A3 -- Brief Description of the Drawings --;

A4 [before line 14, please insert the following heading:]

-- Description of Preferred Embodiments --.

Pag 8: after the last line, please insert the following paragraph: